Chicago Area Transportation Study Tier 2 Consultation Meeting August 3, 2005

Participants Representing

Patricia Berry CATS Randy Blankenhorn **IDOT** Bill Brown (via speaker phone) NIRPC Chris DiPalma **FHWA** Doug Ferguson **CATS** Michael Leslie USEPA Ross Patronsky **CATS** Mark Pitstick **RTA** Mike Rogers **IEPA** Kermit Wies **CATS**

1. Approval of the June 22, 2005 meeting summary

The final (first draft) June summary was approved.

2. PM_{2.5} Conformity Documentation

Mr. Patronsky discussed the draft of Conformity documentation for PM2.5 and the 8-hour Ozone standard. There are three parts that included a main document, Appendix A and Appendix B. Mr. Patronsky asks the Team for any comments on the documentation before it goes out for public comment. Comments should be emailed by Friday, August 5, 2005 so they can be included in the Public Comment version that will be release by the WPC on August 12, 2005. The Public Comment period will last until September 10, 2005. Mr. Leslie expects the final guidance to be out before the PM2.5 workshop being hosted by the EPA on August 17, 2005.

3. Certification Review

Mr. DiPalma distributed a schedule for the review and stated that the wrap up with CATS staff is scheduled for August 19, 2005. At the WPC on August 12, 2005, the committee should offer any praise or concerns of CATS and give any areas that could be improved for the Federal review team. The public hearing will be held on August 9, 2005 at the Metropolitan Planning Council. The USDOT will start with a short presentation and then will open the floor for comments from the audience. The comments received will be brought to the review sessions.

4. TIP 2006-2011 Development Schedule

The new Federal authorization bill has change the TIP requirements to 4 years but no one feels that a change to the TIP/RTP schedule is needed. A mailing will go out later this month to the programming agencies requesting changes to model project data. Ms. Berry stated that in the past we have had success in getting information from the programmers by the deadline of February 2006 but then sometime in June will get requests to move a projects completion year that we can't do because the modeling process has already begun. With the consultation team, CATS has asked for

concurrent review in the past and plans to do so again. The schedule needs to be firm. When the dates change, that causes confusion for the programmers.

Mr. Leslie stated that the conformity SIP will be required to develop consultation and that with conformity the out years are for information only and would not cause a conformity finding to fail. The first 10 years is all that matters. A new conformed Plan and TIP that are required every 4 years.

5. Other Business

No other business was presented to the consultation team.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting was left on call.